

We would remind the reader that a meeting of the American party will be held at the Court House this evening, on business connected with the election of Commissioners of Navigation, which takes place on Monday next.

From the political apathy everywhere existing here, as well as elsewhere, we think it a difficult task, even if there were the desire to do so, to manufacture much excitement in this matter. From present appearances it will be very quiet election, and we doubt if the interest felt will be sufficient to cause even a general turn-out of voters. We had hoped that the opposition would have followed the line of policy adopted by them in the last municipal election, and declined to run a ticket, but in this we have been disappointed. They have chosen to run rival candidates to those now in nomination by the American party, and to that extent are responsible for the opportunity afforded factions the summing up of political apathy. And although we do not believe that in this there can be any great measure of success, yet the chance to agitate is afforded, and that too by the Democratic party.

Where was the necessity for an opposition ticket at this time? The gentlemen in office have discharged their duties faithfully. There is a dead political calm in our midst. Why then should the attempt be made to displace those already in authority, and thus create a party? The prevailing "mistaken" view of a political contest.

But, our opponents have thought proper to run a ticket, and the only alternative left is to endeavor to defeat them. We therefore bespeak a full attendance this evening at the meeting, and we are announcing that, among other things, an address will be delivered on the prominent political topic of the day, to wit, the subject of the Public Land—its history—the rights of all the States therein, and the gross injustice which the old States have suffered by the disposal of their own lands as stipulated in the deeds of cession, and other documents.

We copy the above article from the *Herald* of yesterday. It certainly needs little comment. We ask of all, especially the Democrats of the town of Wilmington to read it over carefully. It was hoped that because Democrats ran no ticket at the last municipal election, they would have run no ticket now. Did it ever strike the *Herald* that there is such a thing as reciprocity in the world? That the Democrats, having yielded the field in December, had some right to expect that their opponents would have returned the compliment in May? Surely, it is the Democratic party that has the best right to be disappointed. They met and nominated a ticket composed of respectable, good men. That ticket was alone in the field for some time. On the principle of one good turn deserving another, the Democrats had some right to expect that no opposition would be brought out. But their reasonable expectations are disappointed; they are expected to yield all the time—they are accused of muddying the waters by making opposition, when, in fact, the opposition is brought into the field after the Democratic ticket has been nominated. Are the Democrats going to confess themselves nobody at all? or are they going to come out and vote? It is for them to say. They see how the opposition wish to place them.

As for political excitement, the Democrats simply resolved to run a ticket and to elect it if they could, and they placed in nomination good and true men, representatives of the different vocations and interests to be guarded by the board if elected. They passed no long string of partisan resolutions—they called no excitement meetings, and hired no band. It undue excitement should come, which it cannot and ought not, surely the mistake, to use no harsher expression, is not with the Democrats. Have not the Democrats a right to run a ticket, and has anybody a right to get mad about it? And further, brother Democrats, haven't you a right to elect too? And won't you? Let your answer be given on Monday next at the ballot box. Turn about is my fair play.

Daily Journal of the 28th ult.

63- There is no greater or more striking evidence of the reflective character of the American people, of their disposition to act on the sober second thought, than the ultimate triumph of the principles of the Democratic party in every case where issues have been made. The issues made by the Democratic party have been upon principles, apparently abstract, but really vital, and upon considerations looking forward to results, rather than to immediate effects. "Let the General Government make magnificent works of internal improvement," has been urged by the opponents of the Democratic party, and then followed a glowing picture of florid prosperity to be therefrom realized. "Stop," says Democracy— "how will that work? has the General Government the power under the constitution? how would this policy affect the independence of the States? Could their sovereignty be preserved while another and a centralizing power maintained an influence and control within their borders, incompatible with and irreconcilable to their sovereignty? Where is the General Government to get the money to carry on this system of internal improvements—under what clause of the constitution has that government the power to collect revenue for any such purpose? After all, from whom must the money come but from the people of the States, who will thus be brought into relations with the general government that properly they can only maintain with their own state government, and these last governments will be dwarfed—their functions assumed by the central power and a consolidated government substituted in effect, if not in name, in the place of a federal union. A large federal revenue must be collected, necessitating a high tariff, ensuring to the advantage of a part and taking money out of the pockets of the great body of the people."

Well, the sober, second thought prevailed. The long struggle ended with the complete triumph of Democracy, until opposition, no longer able to make head, changed its very name. This, which we have given as an illustration, presents a very fair example of the different issues which have arisen—the course of argument pursued, and the final result of the struggles maintained.

The public lands question is but one of the same issues, or rather a form of the one great issue of Democratic principle against plausible, but temporary and fallacious notions of expediency, and its triumph over measures based upon such notions—measures, too, bearing the sanction of great names, and supported by statesmen of eminent ability and patriotism, who have lived to still farther exhibit that ability and patriotism in doing what only great and honest men can do gracefully and well—acknowledging their mistake, and yielding to conviction, as did Mr. Webster, when he pronounced the United States Bank an obsolete idea, or Mr. Buchanan, who in 1856, voted for a distribution of the proceeds of the public lands, yet in 1856, with the added experience and reflection of twenty years, was neither ashamed nor afraid to stand up to the convictions of a better developed and more accurately defined principle of political economy.

At first blush it sounds very nice and plausible, when the advocates of distribution say to the people of North Carolina—"Just go with us for distribution, and we will put money into your hands—you have to pay heavy taxes to the State for internal improvements—we'll show you how to take money out of the federal treasury to build your public works with." All this sounds very well. It is always a pleasant thing to get money, and the promise of it is a very good Morgan to electoroner on. But this talk of the distributionists presents only one side of the affair—it does not inform the people that this money that is to be taken out of the United States Treasury, and given to the States, must every cent of it come out of their own pockets in the shape of taxes upon what they wear, and the articles they use, and the implements with which they cultivate the soil. No, it doesn't tell them that. It says that it means to distribute, not what is raised by taxes, but what comes

from public lands. But the public lands are taxes in another shape. With a very trifling exception, they consist of the land purchased from France under the name of Louisiana, and the balance purchased from Mexico. These lands were paid for in money raised by taxation, and, so, every one will say that A, having money in trust for a certain purpose, and forbidden to use it for another, can take that same money, buy land with it, and divert the land from the purposes of the trust, and distribute it for purposes irrelevant to and forbidden by that trust.

Take another view of it. Suppose fifty millions of dollars be the amount necessary for defraying the annual expenses of the general government, including in these expenses the large sums required for the management and protection of the public lands. Now suppose that these fifty millions are raised, say forty-two by a tariff on imports and eight by the sale of public lands; and no more ought to be raised than what is absolutely necessary. Then suppose that the eight millions from public lands are distributed, must not fifty millions be still raised; and the eight millions necessary to make up the deficiency fall upon the tariff on imports. Eight millions more must be paid in the shape of taxes. And who pays these taxes?—the people of the States—the people to whom eight million is distributed in one form and from whom more than eight million is collected back in another form. And with the money thus distributed and thus collected, it is said that the "Old North State" is to be improved—a sort of modification of the exploded doctrine of internal improvements by the general government.

Pursuing the consideration of the merely economical view of the subject, does it not strike every one that North Carolina can raise money from her people for her own works, by a cheaper process than this round-about way of the general government taking it out of her people in taxes and distributing it back to the State in donations? Is not for the interest of North Carolina to pay as little tribute as she can to other and hostile States, and is not every unnecessary dollar of revenue from customs a tribute to Massachusetts, and Connecticut and Rhode Island. The duty upon imported goods is just so much protection to just so much additional profit for the manufacturer—just so much more paid by the consumer. It is paid not simply on imported goods passing through the custom houses, but equally on goods made North, only that it goes into the pockets of our friends of Lowell, or Boston, or Lynn, or some other place away there, instead of going into the United States Treasury. We, of North Carolina, use immeasurably more of these protected goods than we do duty-paying goods, and, in paying back our share of the deficiency in the federal treasury, occasioned by distribution, would be forced to pay vastly more—three, four, five, six times as much—to the manufacturers of other States. We can surely do our business and build our works on better terms than that.

The progress of our remarks has brought us to the discussion of a delicate question—that of deposit. It is delicate, because the views we entertain and which a regard for our feeling of consistency require that we should express, may be supposed to place us in a quasi antagonism to gentlemen whose motives we respect, and in whose principles we have the utmost confidence. Gentlemen who are able and more experienced Democrats than we can pretend to be, but not, we truly believe, more sincere or devoted ones. We think this antagonism is more in appearance than in fact—more in ideas of necessity, than in matters of principle. To place this matter fully before our readers, may require more space than we can devote to it in to-day's issue. Still we feel called upon so to present it, and will resume this discussion to-morrow.

63- Before entering fully into the question of deposit, we take the liberty of presenting the following extract from President Jackson's last annual Message.

"The consequences apprehended, when the deposit act of 1836, section second, a reluctant approval, have been measurably realized. Though an act merely for the deposit of the surplus money of the United States in the State Treasuries, for safe keeping, until they may be wanted for the service of the general government, it has been extensively spoken of as an act to give the money to the several States; and they have been advised to use it as a gift, without regard to the means of refunding it when called for. Such a suggestion has doubtless been made without due consideration of the obligation of the deposit act, and without a proper regard to the rights of the people. The act is not a gift, but a loan, and it is manifest that the law itself cannot sanction such a suggestion, and that, as it now stands, the States have no more authority to receive any such deposit, or any individual temporarily charged with the safe-keeping or application of the public money, would have for converting the same to their private use, without the consent and against the will of the government. But, independently of the violation of public faith and moral obligation which are involved in this suggestion, when examined in reference to the terms of the present deposit act, it is believed that the considerations which should govern the future legislation of Congress on this subject, will be equally conclusive against the adoption of any measure recognizing the principles on which the suggestion has been made."

Even thus early after the passage of the deposit act of 1836, yet, within the very year of its passage, within the year in which it received the reluctant assent of General Jackson, had the consequences apprehended been measurably realized. It was hardly attempted to be disguised that while deposit had been the name used, distribution was the thing intended; and with stern and manly indignation did the old hero repudiate such a subterfuge, and denounce it as a violation of public faith and moral obligation. We use his own words.

What followed? In 1836 Mr. Van Buren was elected, and in 1837 he took his seat in the Presidential Chair. The deposits with the States gave an impulse to State extravaganzas, resulting in repudiations and suspensions, lowering our standard of commercial credit abroad, and discouraging and crippling our people at home. The States deposited their deposits with their banks—the banks expanded, and in the next year after the deposit with the States, the crash came—specie payments were suspended—State bonds, as a rule, were nowhere in the market—shinplasters were the order of the day.

But the Federal Government did not escape. The federal treasury was depleted and the last instalments of the deposits were never deposited, because there was no money to make the deposits with. The general government had to enter the market as a borrower—the cry of extravagance was raised against Mr. Van Buren, and a wild, hard cider excitement inflicted a defeat upon the Democratic party such as it never knew before, and we trust, will never know again.

Within the four years of Mr. Van Buren's administration, the apprehensions entertained by President Jackson were more fully realized. Embarrassed, bankrupt indeed, as the treasury was, the monies deposited with the States were never turned to or regarded as United States funds, and now that Presidents have come and gone, been elected, inaugurated, died, buried—that the Mexican war has come and gone—that a national debt has been created and defrayed, or nearly so, the idea of calling upon the States has not been mooted, showing this much, at least—that, however pure may have been the motives, and however sincere the professions of many who voted for deposit—however different they may have thought it to be in principle from distribution, nay, however different it may have been, it resulted in the same thing.

We fully acknowledge the question to be an embarrassing one, and that there are views of it which may be urged in excuse or justification, which ap-

pear plausible and right, which, we feel convinced, did appear right to those Democrats who voted for it in the last Congress. It may be said that there is a great difference in principle between this relieving the Treasury of a surplus accumulated against the wishes, and in spite of the exertions of the Democratic party, and the system of collecting money for the purposes of distributing or depositing it. That it is better to distribute or deposit this accidental surplus than to leave it in the Treasury as an incident to extravagance, and a temptation to dishonesty—that of two evils, it is best to choose the least; and that in voting for Mr. Campbell's bill, this choice was honestly and conscientiously made, with no idea of abandoning principle, or sanctioning any system of distribution—either in practice or in principle. That this was the case with the Democratic members from this State, we know to be the case, and we so state freely and fairly; because, as we said on a former occasion, we have no desire to attack the motives of gentlemen in whom we have confidence as Democrats, but from the policy of whose course we are forced to record our dissent.

We notice in the last *Union* a letter from Gen. Duff Green, throwing some light upon circumstances connected with the deposit act of 1836, and especially upon the motives of Mr. Calhoun at that time—Mr. Calhoun thought that there must, for some time, be a surplus annually accruing under the operation of the compromise tariff of 1833. There was no constitutional treasury or other safe custodian of the public monies, which had been bandied about between the United States Bank and the pet Banks, and his object was really and truly to find safer and more reliable custodians of the public money. No such reasons exist now. There is no compromise tariff of supposed irrepealability, apparently forcing a surplus—there is a constitutional treasury—the true and only lawful custodian of the funds of the United States, and money drawn out of that, unless in pursuance of regular appropriation for a specific purpose of the government, is in contravention of the spirit, the intention and the object of the law creating the constitutional treasury, one of the great measures of Democratic policy, which has exerted a more healthful influence upon the country than any other measure on the statute book.

But apart from all other considerations, there is the difficulty about relieving the surplus in the treasury by deposit—that with that resource open and resorted to, the reduction of the public burdens is not felt as a pressing obligation, and surpluses will be created for the purpose of being deposited or distributed—cases of supposed necessity will be constantly arising—choices of evils will become things of constant recurrence, so constant as to run into a system and leave no choice at all. Democracy cannot be beaten on its own true grounds, it cannot be forced from these grounds, but it may be drawn—only a little concession—one slight yielding to compulsion, for such is implied in a "choice of evils," may lay the foundation of future difficulties, misconceptions and embarrassments. That such is the tendency of affairs, is abundantly proved by the his cry of the Democratic party. That all compromises do harm is the experience of the Union.

Daily Journal of the 29th ult.

Pursuant to a very brief notice, a goodly portion of the Democratic citizens of town met in the Court House last evening—(Wednesday, April 29th.) The meeting was organized by calling W. T. J. Vann, Esq., President of the Democratic Association, to the Chair, and requesting Mr. S. R. Bunting to act as Secretary.

The chairman explained the object of the meeting, which was to take into consideration the approaching election for Commissioners of Navigation. He urged upon his fellow-democrats the duty they owed to themselves, their principles and their candidates, as reasons why they should exert themselves.

The meeting was addressed by Thomas H. Ashe, Geo. Houston, and Eli W. Hall, Esqs. The addresses made were able and interesting, although wholly without preparation on the part of any of the gentlemen.

At the close of Mr. Hall's stirring remarks, a motion was made and carried, that the meeting adjourn to assemble again in the same place on Saturday evening next, at 7 o'clock.

Considering the shortness of the notice the attendance was very good indeed; and pervaded by an excellent spirit—the spirit of going to work to elect the ticket.

Let us say a word about that ticket. None of the gentlemen composing it had their names placed on it at their own instance—none sought the nomination, but all, in fact, yielded to the desire of their party friends when they consented to be candidates. Thus pushed forward by their party, with no personal ends to gain, but on the contrary trouble and possible responsibility to encounter, it is surely the duty of the party to come forward fully, fairly and in good faith and give to the ticket a united support—a support by every man in the party and to every man on the ticket. No splitting nor scratching of Democratic tickets ought to be thought. There is no improper name on the ticket—not one. No name that ought to be scratched. We know every man of the five, and we know them to be all good and suitable men.

A Fine Barque.

On Monday, about mid-day, a stately vessel floated majestically up the Cape Fear river, and was for a time the observed of all observers who happened to be along the wharves. Her broad flag bore the name of the Mary C. Fox, and those who stood admiring her beautiful proportions and rig, recognized in her commander the genial face and portly figure of an old Wilmington Captain, familiarly known to his friends as Captain Ned. Gooding, who formerly commanded the brig Cardenas, trading to this port.

On Wednesday, by invitation of the Captain and the very gentlemanly consignee, G. W. Davis, Esq., a very pleasant party assembled on board to inspect the gallant craft and partake of the many good things spread out with unparellel hands. The occasion was emphatically a pleasant one, and will long be remembered by those who participated in it. On board we also recognized the familiar face of Capt. Adams, another good and true seaman, who came in the Mary C. Fox from Cardenas.

The Mary C. Fox was launched in October last, at Yarmouth, Me., by her builders, Messrs. Allen & Hutchings, and is owned by the Captain and others of Portland, Me., from which port she sails. She was built for the Cardenas trade, and is in every respect an A. No. 1 vessel.

Her dimensions are as follows:—Length of keel, 118 feet—over all, 126 feet; breadth of beam, 26 feet 5 inches; depth of hold, 12 feet 14 inches; tonnage by measurement, 341 tons; capacity 3,500 bbls. She draws, when fully loaded, about 13 feet.

Yesterday afternoon the Wilmington Light Infantry were out on parade, and performed many military evolutions in beautiful style.

Our young friends made a fine appearance, and will, we trust, have a pleasant trip on the occasion of their visit to Fayetteville and Raleigh.

The Wilmington Cornet Band was out in a new and very handsome uniform. The Band will go with the Company to Fayetteville and Raleigh.

We take this opportunity of returning our acknowledgments to the gentlemen composing the Committee on the part of the "Oak City Guards," of Raleigh, for their polite invitation to be present when our friends visit the Capital. It will be a pleasant occasion, and we almost envy those who can get off, while we cannot. We can only send our best wishes.

Daily Journal of the 28th ult.

63- Last evening the opposition held a meeting at the Court House. The brass band was in attendance. Otherwise the meeting was rather thin. It is hard to raise a crowd. Dr. F. J. Hill delivered an address upon the subject of the public lands.

About two o'clock yesterday afternoon, the Steamer Flora McDonald, Capt. Hurt, with the Wilmington Light Infantry, the Wilmington Cornet Band, etc., on board, started up the river bound for Fayetteville. The company and band looked very well indeed, and the music sounded even better than usual as the boat swept along in front of town. A goodly crowd had gathered on the wharf to see the company off, and wish them a pleasant trip. As the boat swung off into the stream, a hearty cheer went up from those on shore, which was responded to by an equally hearty one from those on board the boat.

Daily Journal of yesterday.

Geo. Sampson, a free man of color, who was convicted of larceny the day before yesterday, in that he entered the store of one Laughlin and stole therefrom \$100 in currency, yesterday morning, was on his way back yesterday.

We are requested to state on behalf of George Sampson, a free man of color of this place, son of James Sampson, Carpenter, that he is not the person referred to, who is, we believe, originally from Fayetteville. James Sampson is well known here as a very worthy man, and his family enjoy the same character. The person referred to is no relative.

The Washington Union mentions the report that the Governorship of Utah is to be conferred upon Major Ben. McCulloch of Texas. The Major possesses the coolness and tact, but above all the promptitude and iron will necessary to deal with the rascally horde of Mormons squatted around Salt Lake, and will, we think, be just the man for the position, if he will only accept it.

Mr. Stanton, the new Secretary of Kansas, has issued an address to the people of the Territory, recognizing the validity of the territorial laws and legislature, and especially that providing for a Constitutional Convention. Mr. Walker, the Governor, will be out in May.

On the 25th inst., the steam propeller Fanny Garner, blew up at a point on the Delaware and Raritan Canal, known as Millsboro, killing five men.

TOWN BELL.—We are requested to state, that the town bell will hereafter be rung for breakfast at 7 o'clock, A. M., instead of 7 1/2 as heretofore. This arrangement to continue until further notice.

From Havana.

NEW ORLEANS, April 25.—The U. S. steamship *Caucha*, Capt. Bulloch, has arrived at this port, from Havana, with dates to the 21st inst.

Sugar has advanced one cent. The stock of Havana and Matanzas is two hundred and forty-two thousand bbls.

Col. JOHN OXNARD, the defaulting Exchange Broker of this city, had been arrested at Havana by order of Captain General de Cuba and a package of thirteen thousand dollars taken from him. OXNARD was ordered to leave the island.

Two Weeks Later from California.—The latest from General Walker.

NEW ORLEANS, April 27.—The steamer *Empire City* is now coming up, with dates from California to the 6th inst. The steamer *Illinois* takes forward nearly a million of dollars for New York. The *Empire City* brings 100 of Lockridge's men, and 70 others, including Generals Wheeler and Hornsby, who go to New York on the steamer *Illinois*.—The rest of the officers remain at Aspinwall.

The accounts of the Lockridge retreat are confirmed. The Costa Ricans had taken possession of Punta Arenas, and the steamer *Rescue*, with a great amount of ammunition, and six pieces of artillery.

Lockridge's men had been taken to Aspinwall by the British vessel.

Walker's private dispatches received at Aspinwall state his position at Rivas to be impregnable. He had plenty of provisions and was likely to hold out until the north transit was open to the Pacific. The same dispatches confirm the report of the battle, and another attack was expected on the 20th.

General Walker's brother died on board of the *Empire City* yesterday.

Senator Foote has been returned by the democratic party.

The Pacific express had failed—business was dull, and Chinese products at San Francisco were advancing.

The Wagon Road.

WASHINGTON, April 28th.—The War Department has completed the arrangements for the construction of a wagon-road from Fort Refiance to the Majar River. Edward F. Beale is the superintendent; S. H. Leaf, assistant, and James P. Hamblison, physician. Lieut. Chas. E. Tharion has been detached from the navy to accompany the expedition for the purpose of making geological surveys. Twenty-five camels and dromedaries are to be employed in the work, one object being to test their endurance and adaptability to the climate. The party will consist of about fifty picked men, with the necessary implements to break the road through, and will rendezvous at New Orleans on the 20th of May. All the parties for the different sections of the road are now organized, with instructions to commence operations at the earliest practicable period. It is thought that the work will be finished by next December.

Yd. Corr. Balt. Sun.

The Atlantic Road.—Beaufort.

The ship John Frazier with 957 tons rail road iron, arrived at Beaufort on Tuesday last week. This is the first load of iron to be landed at Beaufort since the contract was made between Beaufort and Newbern, and as the work is being prosecuted with vigor we may reasonably expect that the road will be in operation between these two points at an early day. We hope during the next summer to be able to visit our friends on the seaboard, to enjoy moonlight boat excursions in the vicinity of Fort Macon and receive the invigorating influence of the sea breeze, without having our bones powdered by sailing to the northward.

The Frazier came in over the Beaufort bar, drawing 17 feet 4 inches, at low tide. An abundance of water, and one of the most beautiful harbors in the world. Push forward the work—we want a more immediate intercourse with Beaufort.

Goldboro Tribune 30th inst.

Bishop Atkinson.

It has been announced that Bishop Atkinson will visit this parish next Sabbath, when the holy ordinance of confirmation will be administered. It is expected the services on the occasion will be held in the new parish church (St. Stephen's). Service may be expected on Saturday night, Sunday morning and Sunday night.—*Goldboro Tribune 30th inst.*

COMETS.—Lieut. Maury informs the National Intelligencer that another telescopic comet, discovered by Dr. Bruhns at Berlin, March 18th, is now visible in the north-western part of the heavens. It is supposed to be identical with the third comet of 1846, discovered by Broesen—an elliptic orbit for which has been computed by Dr. Von Galen, by which it returns to its perihelion June 25th of the present year. The first comet is increasing its distance from the earth; the second is approaching, and will be visible during the whole of May.

The English and American Governments Compared.

The London Times runs a parallel between the Government of England and that of the United States very favorable to the former, which is far more applicable than solid. The conclusion is a very self-complacent one as to the superior benefits of the British scheme of policy over the American, as more under the influence of the popular element in reality, although less so apparently. The quadrennial election of the United States Executive, it is argued by the Times, renders the tenure of power less within the grasp of the popular voice, than where, as in England, the Government may be totally changed on the vote of the House of Commons, at any moment, in which, on a division, the Ministry are left in a minority.

This is a superficial view of the subject. In England the Executive initiates the measures which are to be approved by the people; in the United States they are the effect of such approval or acquiescence. An English Minister may originate a foreign war, although he will not be able to conduct it unless the supplies are voted by the House of Commons. The present war with the Chinese is an example. The war began, national honor requires that it should be conducted to a satisfactory conclusion. In the United States no war can be declared unless it have the previous sanction of the representatives of the people. To England may be concluded by the fiat of the Minister. The national honor again requires, perhaps, that it should receive the popular sanction. In the United States not only is the agency of the Senate required, to make a treaty of peace, or any other treaty, but that of the House of Representatives, to perfect the conditions, if they involve an appropriation of money. A British Minister may be driven from power, but how does this redress the evil of inexpedient or unconstitutional measures? If the Minister dissolves the Parliament, and appeals to the people, as at present, how does the mere fact of being left in a minority in the House of Commons operate to change the government simply by the agency of a division?

The legal duration of Parliament is seven years. An appeal to the popular constituencies may become indispensable several times within this period, giving rise to popular disorder and tumult. This proves that if there is any advantage in such appeals they are not with a government that in promising superior stability, may give rise to some of those excesses of democracy. The necessity of such appeals has its source in unchecked power in the earlier stages. If Lord Palmerston could have appealed to the voice of a House of Commons that fully reflected the popular opinion, there would have been no necessity for a dissolution of Parliament, and if the initiative of war was with the British people, the question of Chinese hostilities would have been decided on its own merits, and not complicated with that of the national dignity and honor.

It is a fallacy, then to suppose that because our government is subject to change at stated periods, it is less under popular influence than the British system, by which an unpopular ministry may be left in a minority. In the United States all the external appliances which may and do give impulse and direction to public policy are in incessant activity, to enlighten and admonish the government before they originate measures. The press, public meetings, the resolves of separate legislatures—all the people, which are capable of political combination—are full in their united pressure before and after the policy of which they are the guide and informing spirit, is adopted. It is as well for the guidance of the Executive as Congress that these indications to public opinion show themselves. The duration of Executive power is of no weight in weighing the pros and cons of a question. The true issue is the facility of consistency with which popular opinion, through its diversified modes of expression, may be brought to bear with uniform effect on those who administer the government.

THE WAY TO RAISE A COLLECTION.—The Birmingham Journal tells the following story of the Rev. W. Bennet, of that town, deceased:

Upon one of the occasions when a collection was to be made, which, by the way, was an operation very frequently performed, he gave out a hymn, and said, during the singing of this hymn, that he would make a collection, at which announcement the general of the audience, as is usual, began to leave their seats, when he said, in a sly, confident tone. You need not leave your seats, for you cannot get out until the collection is over, as the doors are locked.—The hymn was sung, the collection made, and the money summed up. After being informed of its amount, he slowly rose in the pulpit, and said: My friends, the collection amounts to the sum of £23 17s 5d, making the £23 emphatic; I say the collection amounts to £23 17s 5d, making the shillings emphatic. Now I say there is some mistake; the collection has been made with too much haste, and some one has run round the church, and he has changed it into pounds; and he has changed it into pounds, and then convert it into money again, and it can be sent by Congress in whatever manner that august body may feel disposed. Upon such egregious folly we forbear to comment, convinced as we are that the popular intelligence, however overrated it may be, cannot fail to detect and condemn so contemptible because so palpable a fallacy.

Warren Flag.

SKIRTS vs. SLEEVES.—The important suit which had been for some time pending in the Court of Fashion, Paris, between skirts and sleeves, has just come to a close, and a verdict, after an elaborate charge from the presiding Judge to the jury, been rendered in favor of sleeves. This is the latest important feminine news from Paris. Sleeves have not only been saved and corsage have been touched.—The jury, as a compromise, will take their turn, of course. This is considered a fortunate compromise, as it seriously touches the upper crust. The new sleeves called a *la juine*, are daily gaining ground, and as they are now traversing the Boulevards of Paris, so they will soon be seen promanading Richardson street, the Boulevard of Columbia. They are described as spacious and flowing, allowing a part of the arm in front to be seen, and descending undisturbedly to the hem of the robe. Each of these sleeves takes two yards and a quarter of material.—Some twenty-two yards will now be a small pattern for dress.

Columbia (S. C.) Times.

Postponement of the Princess Royal's Marriage.

We are now fully able to authenticate the rumor which we alluded to in the week of the probable postponement of the marriage of the Princess Royal till January next. Several reasons have been adduced to this postponement, and one is, that the residence preparing for the Prince and Princess in Berlin will not be completed and fit for occupation until the close of the year. This place was the residence of the father of the present King of Prussia, but has been for many years much neglected. Its furniture as well as its decorations require a complete renovation, the building itself a great extent of ornamental repair, with the additions necessary to modern notions of luxury and comfort. Prince Frederick Williams is expected will arrive in this country about the latter end of May or the beginning of June—the precise time may, perhaps, be influenced by the Queen's recovery. Had the marriage taken place in autumn, as originally proposed, the royal bridegroom would have remained some time in England; but as the nuptials have been postponed some months, the Prince and Princess will, it is expected, proceed at once to Berlin.—*Court Journal April 7.*

WHAT DID THE CLOCK SAY.—The clock upon the tower of a neighboring church tolled forth, slowly and solemnly, the knell of the departed hour.

As the last sound died away, Willie, who was sitting on the carpet at his mother's feet, lifted his head, and looked earnestly into her face, asked:

"Mother, what did the clock say?"

"To me," said the mother, sadly, "it seemed to say, 'Gone, gone, gone!'"

"What, mother?—who has gone?"

"Another hour, mother."

"A white winged messenger from our Father in Heaven, sent by him to enquire of you—of me, what we are doing; what we are saying; what we are thinking and feeling."

"Where has it gone, mother?"

"Back to him who sent it, bearing on its wings, that were so pure and white when it came, a record of our thoughts, words and deeds, while it was with us."

Were they all such as our father could receive with a smile of approbation?

Rea'er! what record are the hours, as they come and go, bearing up on high for you!

The North Eastern Railway Company in England

have lately paid \$1,000 for breaking the ribs of one man, and \$5,000 for killing the wife of another; showing which rib was worth the most.

Distribution.

It had been our opinion, until a very short time past, that this Distribution question had been allowed to remain undisturbed in the womb which the popular voice had assigned it, for a very long period. But upon examination we find that from time to time the Opposition have essayed to render it an issue upon which to sustain themselves in the State elections. We have before us an old Enquirer, of April, 1853, in which an account is given of an abortive effort made by the Whig party in the Legislature to resurrect the discussion of the Land bill, and to pledge our Senators in Congress to its support. At Staples of Patrick, was the chosen oracle by which the truths of Virginia's redemption from debt were to be preached, and the bill of Mr. Bennett of New York, (the defender of the Northern corrupted members), was adopted as the means of accomplishing so desirable a result.—The earnest effort, indeed the successful attempt, to conduct the Spruce elections on that principle was made. But how different are the facts they then produced to sustain them in their position from those they now so imposingly array! How elated the modern opponents of Democracy must feel when they see before their eyes this example of the boldness and entire disregard of consistency which has been even characteristic of their party. Here is an extract from Mr. Bennett's speech on the subject of the Land bill, in 1853:

"When we deduct from the amount of the sales the amount of the appropriations made for the sale of the public lands, we find that not only is there not one dollar of revenue derived from that source, but that the administration of the public lands has annually for the last few years, brought the Government in debt. By an examination of the documents of the last session of Congress it will be found that the account stands thus: Amount of sales in 1849, \$50, and three quarters in 1851, \$50,828; amount of appropriations from June, 1850, to December, 1851, \$5,051,975—thus showing that the sale for two years and three quarters amounted to but very little more than the appropriations for one year and a half. For the years 1851-52, the account will stand thus: Appropriations for the sale of public lands in 1851, 1851 and '52,..... \$2,513,328 Collected from sales during the same period..... 1,947,347

Excess of appropriation..... \$1,565,981

"It is easy to calculate how much revenue is derived from the sales of the public land, when the expenses of one department are in round numbers about \$3,500,000, and the amount of the sales does not exceed \$2,000,000 annually."

Thus does it appear that the Whigs of 53 contended that the land fund was a public burden, while the same party in '57 contend that